News Release

September 8, 1995

CRTC TO REFRAIN FROM REGULATING CERTAIN TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES PROVIDED BY NON-DOMINANT CANADIAN CARRIERS

OTTAWA-HULL - The CRTC today announced that, effective immediately, non-dominant Canadian carriers such as Unitel, Sprint and Fonorola will no longer be required to file tariffs for certain telecommunications services that the Commission considers sufficiently competitive (Telecom Decision CRTC 95-19).

Among the affected services are long distance voice services and data services. Filing of tariffs will still be required, however, for public switched local voice services and operator services and, in some cases, video dial tone services. Although it has decided to forbear from regulating the tariffs of certain services, the Commission still considers it necessary to retain certain of its powers in order to deal with issues such as customer privacy and fair access to the networks by competing carriers.

Section 34 of the *Telecommunications Act* allows the Commission to refrain from regulating services when to do so is consistent with Canadian telecommunications policy objectives. In this case, the Commission has also ruled that competition in the provision of certain services is or will be sufficient to protect the interests of consumers.

Today's decision was taken following the Commission's analysis of the responses to Telecom Public Notice CRTC 94-44, which sought comments from the industry on the appropriateness of forbearing from regulation. "Some thirty interested parties, large and small, provided relevant feedback on the subject, and most of them are in favour of some degree of forbearance for the services provided by non-dominant carriers," CRTC Chairman Keith Spicer said. "We agree that there is or will be sufficient competition in the market to ensure that rates are just and reasonable to the Canadian consumer."

In addition to no longer having to file tariffs, non-dominant Canadian telecommunications carriers will not have to file agreements between themselves and other domestic carriers involving the exchange of telecommunications traffic and other intercarrier activities. Due to concerns expressed by interested parties regarding the potential bypass of Canadian facilities, non-dominant carriers will still be requested to file agreements with foreign carriers for Commission approval.

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Copies of today's decision are available through our Internet home page (http://www.crtc.gc.ca) or by contacting the public examination room of any CRTC office:

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